



**1115th meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
7:30PM Wednesday March 25, 2008
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California**

Tokens and Medals of the Wild West
Michael Wehner

**Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
Box 475656 San Francisco, CA 94147-5656
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Please join us Wednesday, March 25 to hear *Michael Wehner* practice his new talk about the Wild West.

2009 DUES ARE NOW OVERDUE!

Please remit your 2009 due. Dues are \$20 per year. \$5 for each additional family member at the same address. Mail to the PCNS, Box 475656 San Francisco, CA 94147-5656 You must be paid up to receive the benefits of PCNS membership including the publications. The following members were not paid up as of the February meeting: Joel & Lila Anderson, Vince Battaglia, Phil Carrigan, Charles Catlett, Daniel Feldman, Will Fragner, Steve Graham, Tom Hallenbeck, Robert Johnson, Don Kagin, Dean Neald, Phil & Sarah Nordin, Lee Penn, Larry & Lori Reppeteau, Cal Rogers, Leon Saryan, Cherie Schoeps, Tom Swaney, Ken & Rebecca Takahashi, Fritz Terplan, Scott Travers, O.L. Wallis, Kerry Wetterstrom

1114th meeting, Mexican Tokens, Jerry Schimmel, reviewed by Herb Miles

Jerry (feeling a bit under the weather) presented a slide show on a variety of distinct Mexican tokens, coffee plantation tokens, agricultural tokens, municipal tokens, mining tokens, bar & brothel tokens, and the like.

Most of these were issued during the period from the 1770s to the 1820s and are crude copper or bronze of varying shapes and sizes. It was wonderful to see the monograms and names of the plantation owners although difficult to decipher some of them.

The denominations corresponded to very small coins, a tlaco equaling 1/8 real and a pilon equaling 1/16 real. The plantation tokens are quite charming in their crude way. Some have retrograde letters, perhaps to correspond to Incan pronunciation, but no one seems to know how to pronounce the words. Chiapas, Colima, Merida (Yucatan peninsula), and many other towns were represented in Jerry's slide show.

During the 1830-1860 period, after Mexican independence, many small towns issued municipal and transportation tokens and these are much nicer in appearance than the plantation tokens.

Many of the later pieces are aluminum with a bit more style and artistry, especially those made for use by bars in towns near the U.S. border.

2009 Officers

Correction: Gordon Donnell is a 2009 board member, not Mark W. Clark

February 2009 Exhibits (*Herb Miles*)

Scott brought two new additions to his Belgian Congo collection, a PCGS Specimen 64 1937 5 Franc piece (unlisted in Specimen with only one other being graded) and a uniface copper piedfort 1965 10 Franc piece that normally appears in aluminum!

Herb exhibited a grouping of Revolutionary Mexican coins from the early 1900s, many in relatively high grade for these issues.

Michael brought two magnificent slabbed Leshner Dollars, the silver pieces made in Victor, Colorado in the early 1900s and a nice 1911 Guatemalan coffee plantation token.

Whalen brought a World War I George V half penny encased in a package showing soldiers "fixing bayonets" and he also brought along a real bayonet for good measure!

Ed seems to be branching out by exhibiting a PCGS tag error, a Marines Commemorative slabbed as mint state when it is Proof; a Bay Bridge Commemorative Half Dollar, and a 1999 Silver Proof set secured from eBay.

Gordon brought his latest raffle acquisition, a 1902 \$20 gold piece! You know he never wins.

Federico brought a new acquisition, a book on Costa Rican Coffee Tokens entitled, "Los Boletos" by Hector Rojas Solano (from the library of Freeman Craig) and some Costa Rican "errors" which he did not describe.

Mark brought a host of Mexican tokens which illustrated Jerry's talk very well and which tempted all of us attending.

February 2009 Raffle

Gordon Donnell was the Big Winner of the night taking home the following prizes; 1) a book on "Large Size Star Notes" by Tauber & Conklin, 2) a Pittsburgh ANA 2004 Commemorative 2 Medal set (donated by Ken!) 3) a Meissen Porcelain German token; & 4) a Trinidad & Tobago Proof Set of minor coins!!!

Whalen was finally able to secure a U.S. Bicentennial 3 coin Silver Commemorative set.

And, last but not least, Federico won an Israeli Mint Set.

Available from the PCNS:



PCNS 1000th meeting medals. The set includes both a proof silver and an antiqued bronze specimen and is only \$30 plus postage and insurance. A reminder of the Society's long and venerable history.

The Old Streets of San Francisco, Early Street Names on Some Brass Tokens by

Jerry F. Schimmel. Published by the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society in 1993. 41 pages including many pictures. A must have reference for those interested in western trade tokens or San Francisco history. \$10 plus postage

Future events:

April 22: Jeff Shevlin "The 1894 California Midwinter Exposition"

May 27: Whalen, TBA

June ?: Banquet

July 22: ?

August 26: Federico Castillo; Coffee Token Update

September 23: White Elephant Sale

October 28: Steve Huston

November 25: Annual Turkey Coin Celebration

December ?: Annual Xmas Party!